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## Psychedelic Healing? ( Preview )

Hallucinogenic drugs, which blew minds in the 1960s, soon may be used to treat mental ailments

By [David Jay Brown](#)

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### Key Concepts

#### Mind-Bending Therapies

The drugs that put the “psychedelic” into the sixties are now the subject of renewed research interest because of their therapeutic potential.

Psychedelics such as LSD and the compound in magic mushrooms could ease a variety of difficult-to-treat mental illnesses, such as chronic depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and drug or alcohol dependency.

Clinical trials with various substances are now under way in humans.

Mind-altering psychedelics are back—but this time they are being explored in labs for their therapeutic applications rather than being used illegally. Studies are looking at these hallucinogens to treat a number of otherwise intractable psychiatric disorders, including chronic [depression](#), post-traumatic [stress](#) disorder, and drug or alcohol dependency.

The past 15 years have seen a quiet resurgence of psychedelic drug research as scientists have come to recognize the

long-underappreciated potential of these drugs. In the past few years, a growing number of studies using human volunteers have begun to explore the possible therapeutic benefits of drugs such as LSD, psilocybin, DMT, MDMA, ibogaine and ketamine.

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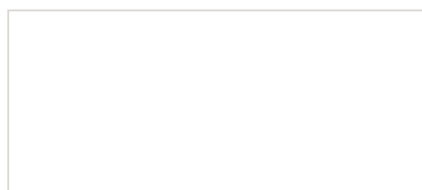


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